



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION CENTERS - REGISTERING FOR BUSINESS

The following should help you complete the "Redemption Center Registration and Approval Form" (the Form). If you have any questions for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), please contact Bill Blum at 515/281-8176, or e-mail bill.blum@dnr.iowa.gov.

A key term to know up-front is "Dealer." As used in the Container Control Law, "Dealer" describes ALL retailers of beverage containers such as grocery stores, convenience stores, bars and restaurants. The official definition:

"Dealer" means any person who engages in the sale of beverages in beverage containers to a consumer."

*** DETERMINING YOUR REDEMPTION CENTER CATEGORY**

BECAUSE YOU MAY BE IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY, BE SURE TO COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS THAT APPLY. ALL APPLICANTS COMPLETE AT LEAST SECTION 1.

Approved Redemption Centers

An "Approved" redemption center is one to which the DNR has issued a formal approval for the redemption center to relieve a Dealer of the responsibility of redeeming consumers' empty containers. The Dealer is authorized to instead direct its customers to return their empty containers to the 'Approved' redemption center.

To be 'Approved,' the redemption center must be open to the public a minimum of 20 hours per week, of which 4 hours must be on Saturday or Sunday or between 6:00 PM and 10:00 PM. The DNR will issue its approval if it is determined that the redemption center will provide a convenient service to a Dealer's customers. "Convenient service" means, in part, that the redemption center is generally not more than about a mile or so from the Dealer.

Distributors are required to pick up containers from 'Approved' redemption centers at least weekly, or when a distributor delivers product to the Dealer for which the redemption center is 'Approved,' if product deliveries are less than weekly, unless otherwise agreed upon. Payment is to be issued within one week of pickup.

✓ Do you have, or will you have, an agreement with at least one Dealer to be an "Approved" redemption center, so as to then be designated to accept the same size, type and brands sold by the Dealer(s)?

If so, complete **Section 2** of the Form, which includes attaching the written agreement(s) with authorized signature(s).

Please note the Dealer(s) must continue accepting containers until the DNR grants approval.

Redemption Centers for a Dealer ... AND Dealer Agents

A redemption center for a Dealer is one that has a signed written agreement with at least one Dealer to provide them container handling or sorting services. Two common

examples are [1] a redemption center that picks up empty containers from a Dealer, or [2] a redemption center that accepts empty containers that are delivered from a Dealer to the redemption center.

Distributors are required to pick up containers from these redemption centers at least weekly, or when a distributor delivers product to the Dealer for which the redemption center is certified, if product deliveries are less than weekly, unless otherwise agreed upon. Payment is to be issued within one week of pickup.

A **dealer agent** is anyone who solicits or picks up empty beverage containers from a Dealer, but that is not open to the general public. Distributors are not required to pick up containers from dealer agents. Dealer agents must bring empty containers to the distributors unless otherwise agreed upon. Payment is to be issued within one week of delivery of containers.

✓ (1) *Are you open to the public?*

✓ (2) *Do you have an agreement with a Dealer to pickup containers that were redeemed by the public at the Dealer's store?*

✓ (3) *Do you provide sorting and handling services for Dealers that bring empty containers to your redemption center?*

If you answer **'yes'** to (1) and then 'yes' to either (2) or (3), you are a **redemption center for a dealer**. Complete **Section 3** of the Form.

If you answer **'no'** to (1) and then 'yes' to either (2) or (3), you are a **dealer agent**. Complete only **Section 1** of the Form.

Unapproved Redemption Centers

An **"unapproved" redemption center** is any redemption center that does not fall into one of the above Categories. They are nonetheless required to be Registered with the DNR. Distributors are not required to pickup containers from them. Rather these redemption centers deliver their redeemed containers to those distributors that have the redemption centers within their geographic sales areas. Payment will be issued within one week of delivery.

If you do not fall into one or more of the above Categories you are an "unapproved" redemption center. Complete only **Section 1** of the Form.